

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

I. *Status of the claims*

New claims 65-74 are added and claims 61-63 are amended. Claims 1-74 are pending.

Support for the amendments can be found in the specification, figures, and claims as originally filed. The amendments to claims 61-62 merely involve insertion of sequence identifiers. Support for claim 63 can be found in, e.g., paragraph 98. Support for claims 64-65 can be found in, e.g., paragraph 99. Support for claim 67 and 72 can be found in, e.g., paragraph 106. Support for claim 68-71 and 73-74 can be found in, e.g., paragraph 28 and 98.

II. *Response to restriction*

Applicants elect with traverse to prosecute the claims of Group III (claims 61-63 and new claims 65-74). According to the MPEP, where claims can be examined together without undue burden, the Examiner must examine the claims on the merits even though they are directed to independent and distinct inventions. *See*, the MPEP at 803.01. In establishing that an “undue burden” would exist for co-examination of claims, the Examiner must show that examination of the claims would involve substantially different prior art searches, making the co-examination burdensome. Applicants respectfully submit that examination of the claims in Groups I-III would not create an-undue burden and respectfully request withdrawal of the restriction requirement in this case.

Appl. No. 10/723,383
Amdt. dated March 6, 2006
Reply to Office Action of October 6, 2005

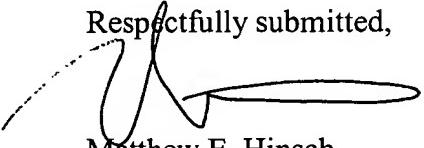
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,


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